Government. The Government of India has already appointed the VI Central pay Commission (CPC) to review the structure of pay, allowances and other benefits to the Central Government employees including Armed Forces. The three Services have since submitted a joint memorandum to the Pay Commission regarding service conditions and enhancement of pay and allowances.

Under capacity functioning of Indian Military Academy

655. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in its platinum jubilee year, the Indian Military Academy (IMA), the Army's premier officer training institute is functioning at just over one third of its capacity;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a downward trend in the quality of candidates applying for permanent commission over the past decade and it is feared that this dangerous trend can seriously undermine the Army's operational abilities; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take to prevent further deterioration?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The standards of selection of officers' category by the Services Selection Boards have not been diluted.

Training to CPOs and State police forces by Indian Army

656. SHRI VIJAYJ . DARDA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Army has been asked to provide training to the Central Police Organizations (CPOs) and State Police forces to tackle Naxal menace;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government would like to deploy Army in the most sensitive areas which are affected by Naxals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The Army within the framework of the Government's counter Naxal Strategy is extending training and advice to Central Police Organisations (CPOs)/State police forces in Naxal affected States. 139 companies of State police forces/CPOs have been trained so far.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to deploy Army in the Naxal affected areas.

Strategic shift in Defence deals

657. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last four years, there was a strategic shift in terms of defence deals by Government of India;